

***Rostrogitanopsis karamani* n. sp., the first record of the genus from the Asian region (Amphipoda: Gammaridea: Amphilochidae)**

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***Rostrogitanopsis karamani* n. sp., the first record of the genus from the Asian region (Amphipoda: Gammaridea: Amphilochidae).** – A new species of *Rostrogitanopsis* Karaman, 1980 (Gammaridea) is described from a coral reef at Pulau Babi Besar, about 15 km off Mersing, eastcoast of the Malayan Peninsula. It differs from *R. mariae* (Griffiths, 1973), the only other member of the genus from Moçambique at first glance by the small size, a longer rostrum and a broader, anteroventrally acute coxal plate on pereonite 4. The new species *R. karamani* n. sp. extends the known range of the genus considerably northeastward to Asia.

Key-words: Amphipoda – Gammaridea – Amphilochidae – *Rostrogitanopsis* n. sp. – Asia.

The up to now monotypic genus *Rostrogitanopsis* was established by KARAMAN (1980) for the South African species *Gitanopsis mariae* Griffiths, 1973. As pointed out by KARAMAN (1980: 64), *Rostrogitanopsis* differs from *Gitanopsis* Sars, 1895 by “the long probosciform rostrum, by simple gnathopod 2, by excavate lateral cephalic lobes and by shape of palp article 3 of mandible”.

During the author's survey of marine invertebrates from coral reefs in the Tioman Archipelago (April 1991) a second species of *Rostrogitanopsis* was discovered and is described herein. It extends the known range of the genus considerably north-eastward to Southeast Asia.

The specimens are deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire naturelle, Genève (MHNG), the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN) and in the author's private collection.

***Rostrogitanopsis* Karaman, 1980**

Rostrogitanopsis Karaman, 1980: 64.

Rostrogitanopsis; Barnard & Karaman, 1991: 98.

Rostrogitanopsis karamani n. sp. (Figs 1-16)

H o l o t y p e : ♂ (MHNG), Malaysia; Pulau Babi Besar, off Mersing; outer reef flat, reef margin and coral slope, from dead coral substrate (*Acropora* sp., *Pocillopora damicornis*), 1-2 m, 2 April 1991.

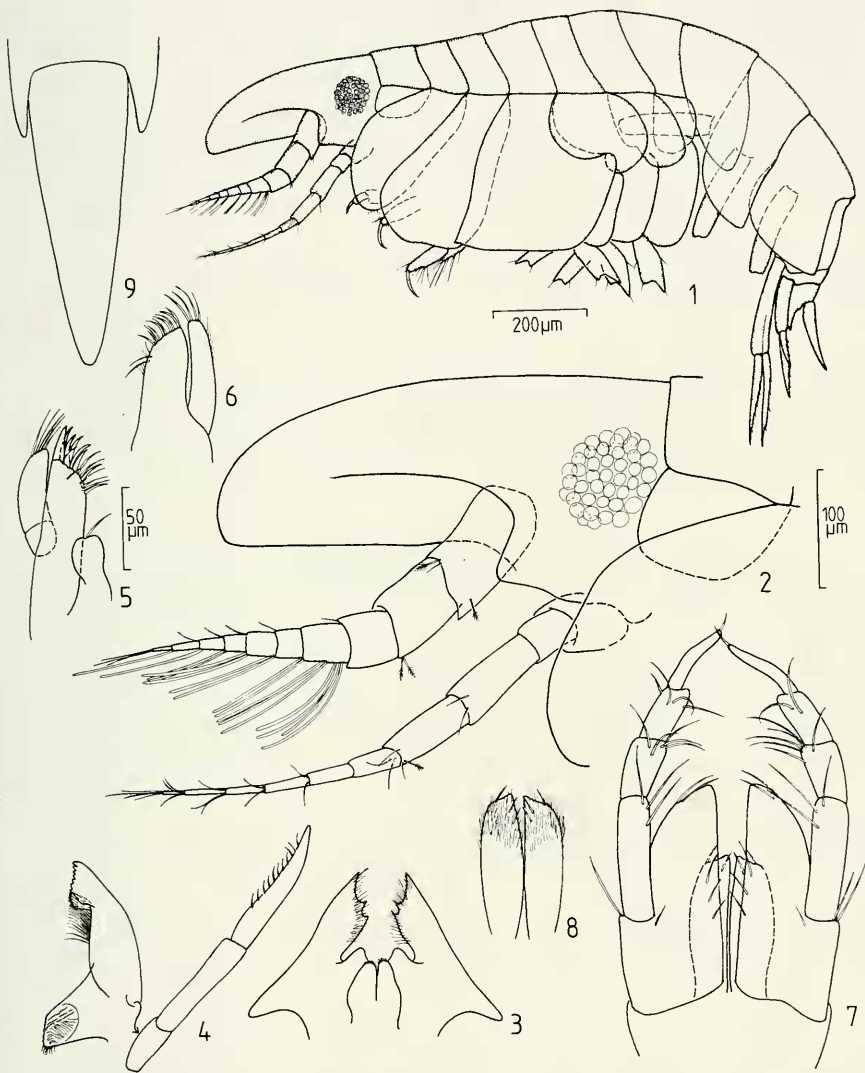
P a r a t y p e s : 1 ♂, 6 ♀ ♀, deposited as follows: 1 ♂, 4 ♀ ♀ (Coll. Müller), 1 ♀ (MHNG), 1 ♀ (MNHN); collected together with holotype.

D e r i v a t i o n o m i n i s : This species is dedicated to Dr. Gordan S. Karaman, Institute of Freshwater Research, Titograd, who established the genus *Rostrogitanopsis* and contributed much to the knowledge on grammaridean amphipods.

D e s c r i p t i o n , ♂: Total length 1.4-1.5 mm, colourless. Cephalon with quadratic lateral lobe; cephalon (viewed laterally) twice longer than wide; rostrum very long, reaching to fourth flagellar article of antenna 1; dorsal margin of rostrum convex, ventral margin almost straight. Eyes relatively large and well pigmented, composed of 44 ommatidia. Posteroventral margins of pleonites 1-2 narrowly rounded, of pleonite 3 subacute. Telson triangular, slender, tapering to narrowly rounded apex, 3 times longer than wide.

Peduncle of antenna 1 of 3 articles decreasing in size distally; both first and second article bearing two distal feathered sensory setae; flagellum 7-articulate; first flagellar article longest, others subequal in length; flagellar articles 1-6 bearing filiform aesthetascs in formula 9:2:2:2:1:1. Peduncle of antenna 2 4-articulate, 3rd article longest; 4th peduncular article with distal feathered sensory seta; flagellum of 6 slender, setose articles, well extending beyond distal margin of rostrum. Mandibular lobes of labium narrowly rounded; inner lobes of labium oval, with some distal setules; inner distal margin of outer labial lobes strongly 3-toothed, bearing fringe of many setules. Mandible with large, triturative molar; incisor 7-toothed, with multidenticulate lacinia and row of about 15 fine setae; mandibular palp 3-articulate, articles subequal in width, progressively longer; distal palp article with row of 11 short setae. Inner lobe of maxilla 1 with single distal seta; outer lobe about twice length of inner lobe, bearing 5 spines and 9 setae distally; palp of first maxilla biarticulate, with 5 distal setae. Inner lobe of maxilla 2 much larger than outer lobe; inner lobe bearing 13, outer lobe 4 distal setae. Both inner and outer plates of maxilliped well developed, inner lobe bearing 3, outer lobe bearing 2 distal setae; moreover, distal part of inner lobes bearing numerous setules; inner margin of these plates straight, outer distal margin convex; maxilliped with 4 setose palp-articles; distal article tipped with sort seta, curved, much more slender than remaining articles; proximal palp article longest, not extending beyond distal margin of outer plate.

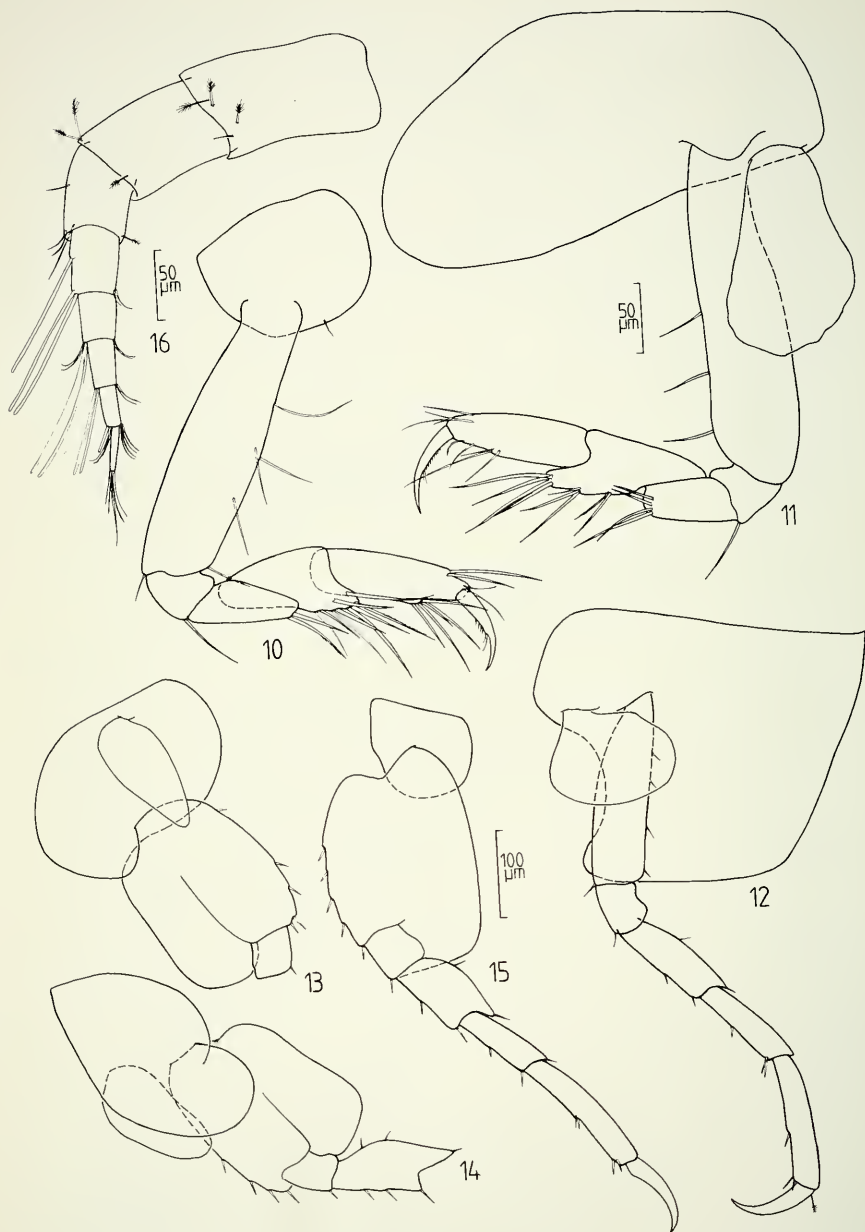
Coxa 1 smaller than remaining coxae, almost semicircular; second coxa elongate-ovate, widest at midlength; third coxa widest in distal half, with broadly rounded margins; coxa 4 largest, anteroventral margin acute, posterior margin deeply excavate; coxae 5-6 ventrally notched, anterior and posterior lobe rounded; coxa 7 longer than wide, oval, somewhat larger than first coxa. Gnathopods 1 and 2 weak and relatively



FIGS 1-9.

Rostrogitanopsis karamani n. sp., ♂: 1) lateral view; 2) cephalon and antennae, lateral view; 3) lower lip; 4) mandible; 5) maxilla 1; 6) maxilla 2; 7) maxilliped; 8) inner plates of maxilliped, viewed dorsally.

A la suite d'une erreur technique, l'illustration a été retournée; il fallait lire:



FIGS 10-16.

Rostrogitanopsis karamani n. sp. — ♂: 10) gnathopod 1; 11) gnathopod 2; 12) pereopod 2; 13) pereopod 3; 14) pereopod 4; 15) pereopod 5. — ♀ paratype: 16) antenna 1.

slender, somewhat carpocheate; dactylus of both gnathopods slender, acute and well curved, bearing several short distal setae along posterior margin; propodus elongate-oval, somewhat longer than dactylus; posterodistal margin of carpus more projected in gnathopod 2; posterior margins of propodus and carpus, as well as posterodistal margin of merus with several slender spines and setae; basis slender, as long as propodus, carpus and merus together. Pereopods 1-2 more longer and slender than remaining pereopods, similar among one another and scarcely spinose. Basis of pereopods 3-5 flattened, much wider than in pereopods 1-2, bearing some small spines along anterior margin; spination of propodus, carpus and merus similar to pereopods 1-2.

Rami of first uropods subequal in length, bearing row of slender spines; inner ramus of uropod 2 twice length of outer ramus, also bearing some slender spines; third uropods broken off.

♀: Sexual dimorphism poorly pronounced, in size and habitus quite similar to ♂.

Two proximal peduncular articles of antenna 1 with 3 distal feathered sensory setae, respectively; flagellum of antenna 1 shorter than in ♂, of only 5 articles; number of filiform aesthetascs less numerous than in ♂, on flagellar articles 1-4 in formula 3:2:2:1.

Remarks: *Rostrogitanopsis karamani* n. sp. differs from the only other member of the genus, *R. mariae* at first glance by the much smaller size, a more longer rostrum, larger eyes, a distally narrowly rounded telson and an anteroventrally acute 4th coxal plate. *R. mariae* is known only from the ♂ holotype collected at Santa Maria, Inhaca Island (Moçambique). This species is more than 4 times longer (7 mm), the rostral process is shorter and the dorsal margin of the rostrum apparently more convex. The eyes of *mariae* are relatively smaller, the distal telsonic margin is tridentate and the anteroventral margin of the 4th coxal plate seems to be narrowly rounded (cf. GRIFFITHS 1973: 276-277, Fig. 4).

At the type locality the new species was restricted to the outer reef-flat, reef-margin and upper coral slope, where it was found associated with dead coral substratum.

Distribution: Pulau Babi Besar, off Mersing; eastcoast of the Malayan Peninsula.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Es wird eine für die Wissenschaft neue Art der Gattung *Rostrogitanopsis* Karaman, 1980 (Gammaridea) von einem Korallenriff der Insel Pulau Babi Besar beschrieben, die etwa 15 km dem Ort Mersing auf der östlichen Malaysischen Halbinsel vorgelagert ist. Die neue Spezies unterscheidet sich von dem einzigen anderen Vertreter der Gattung, *R. mariae* (Griffiths, 1973) von Moçambique auf den ersten Blick durch die geringe Grösse, ein längeres Rostrum und eine anteroventral spitze, vierte Coxalplatte. Der Fund von *R. karamani* n. sp. erweitert das Verbreitungsareal der Gattung beträchtlich in nordöstliche Richtung bis nach Asien.

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